

9 March 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Survey Division

SUBJECT: Comments of Rear Admiral Thomas B. Inglis
Chief of Naval Intelligence

1. During the course of a current survey to determine the views of the recipients of the CIA Daily and Weekly Top Secret Summaries, an interview was held on 8 March 1948 with Admiral Inglis, Chief of Naval Intelligence.
2. The Admiral opened the interview by observing that the Congress would soon be inquiring into the activities of the various governmental intelligence agencies with the aim of eliminating duplication or reducing appropriations if activities could not be justified.
3. It is becoming more difficult, according to the Admiral, to justify some of the duplication that now exists; ONI, for example, is devoting roughly 25% of its total headquarters effort to the production of political and economic intelligence most of which should be produced by CIA, in the opinion of Inglis.
4. Heretofore, the Admiral continued, it has been possible to explain that CIA was still getting organized and would eventually be in a position to give more service and free the IAC agencies to place more effort on their specialized intelligence efforts.
5. The time is rapidly approaching, Inglis feels, when in justifying ONI appropriations to Congress, he will be called upon to take one of two positions: either he can show that (a) the activities of his Headquarters are devoted purely to naval intelligence necessary to the Department and thus justified, or (b) he will have to explain that CIA is unable to furnish the other types of intelligence and thus ONI is required to produce its own and needs funds commensurate with the additional responsibility. The Admiral said he would not like to be in the position of making the latter statement to a congressional committee, but felt that it could not be long avoided, unless CIA began to furnish more complete intelligence for wider distribution than is afforded by the Daily and Weekly Summaries.
6. Admiral Inglis then reiterated a suggestion he has previously made to CIA for a summary classified no higher than Secret which could reach a larger number of users than the Daily and Weekly in their present forms. Inglis feels that this could replace the daily summary of cables and press which the Navy Department now produces.
7. The Admiral also feels that CIA should plan to do more of the production work on the forthcoming NIS series, as he feels that present plans will not reduce the work which will have to be performed by the IAC agencies.

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8. Admiral Inglis would like to be able to call upon CIA for answers to queries from the Secretary of the Navy and others on intelligence matters not primarily of concern to the Navy. The Admiral does not believe that this service exists at present and feels that research on a query sent to CIA for action, might conceivably be returned to ONI for the necessary research.

9. The comments of Admiral Inglis with respect to the Daily and Weekly Summaries were generally favorable and will be reported in full at the completion of the survey of recipients of these publications.

10. The interview closed with the Admiral repeating his initial observation that if CIA did not assume more of the burden for eliminating duplication of effort and for furnishing more intelligence to the IAC agencies, it possibly would be reflected in the size of future congressional appropriations.

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